instructions already exist for the hiring of Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporation godowns in preference to others. This would apply to Tadepalligudem as well.

BPL families not covered under TPOS in Uttaranchai

3695. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families living under BPL in Uttaranchal which are not covered under the Target Public Distribution System;

(b) whether a large number of bogus BPL ration cards are in existence;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this behalf; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) As per the 1993-94 poverty estimation of the Planning Commission projected into the population figures of the Census Report of 2000, the estimated number of BPL households in Uttaranchai is 4.98 lakh (including AAY). The State Government Of Uttaranchal has already indentified and issued ration cards for all the 4.98 lakh families including 1.15 lakh AAY.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. But bogus ration cards are verified and eliminated every month.

Procurement of Wheat

3696. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is low procurement of wheat in Punjab and Haryana compared to the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of wheat procurement in Punjab and Haryana during RMS 2006-07 as on 15.5.2006 as well as procurement of wheat on the corresponding date in RMS 2005-06 is as under:

(fig. in lakh MTs)

	2006-07	2005-06
Punjab	69.27	89.14
Haryana	22.28	45.05

(c) To increase wheat procurement, the Government has announced an incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal for procurement of wheat over the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of Rs. 650 per quintal payable to farmers by FCI and State Agencies in RMS 2006-07 for the entire procurement period i.e. from 20.03.2006 to 30.06 2006.

CWC Godowns in Uttaranchal

3697. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to properly use Central Warehousing Corporation's godowns in Uttaranchal;

(b) whether steps have been taken to view the contracts drawn up with private parties for use of their godowns;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) is having a total capacity of 75,490 MTs in Uttaranchal where it has got 7 warehouses. The overall occupancy of the region in 79%. The FCI is already using a capacity of 26,000 MTs of CWC. Wherever there is low utilization, FCI as well as private procurement agencies have been offered space to effectively utilize the storage capacity.

(b) No, Sir.